



*The EU Liaison Unit is the part of IUCN's European Programme that represents IUCN to the EU institutions; influences EU policy in line with IUCN policy recommendations; and keeps IUCN and its members informed of EU policy developments and funding opportunities. It's based in IUCN's Regional Office for Europe (ROfE), in Brussels.*

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*ROfE is comprised of four IUCN offices located in Brussels, Warsaw, Belgrade and Moscow. The head office, located in Brussels, is a meeting point where the IUCN Programme Office for Central Europe in Warsaw, the IUCN Programme Office for the*

## EU ENVIRONMENTAL POLICY

### • EU Biodiversity Communication



DG Environment has launched an internet consultation on its forthcoming Communication on Biodiversity. The objective of the consultation is to seek views on what needs to be done for the EU to deliver on its commitments to a) halt the loss of biodiversity in the by 2010, and, b) contribute towards significantly reducing the rate of biodiversity loss worldwide by 2010. The consultation takes the form of a fairly simple online questionnaire, which we would encourage all our members to respond to, at: [EC Biodiversity Consultation](#)

### • Financing Natura 2000

The EU is in the process of adopting Financial Regulations for its Rural Development, Structural, Fisheries and Environment (LIFE+) funds, for the period 2007-2013. All these Regulations include opportunities for financing Natura 2000, and Member States are now beginning to draft national programmes which outline how they will prioritise the spending of these funds. We would encourage our members to become involved in this process at the national level, to ensure that these opportunities are taken up. We are sending out separate emails giving more details or more information can also be viewed on our website at: [EU funding](#)



### • Climate Change



DG Environment has just launched the second phase of the European Climate Change Programme which aims to ensure the EU meets its Kyoto commitments. The Commission is setting up stakeholder working groups to take forward work in a number of related areas, more information is available at: [ECCP II.](#)

For further information on any area of IUCN ROfE's work with DG Environment, please contact: [janice.weatherley@iucn.org](mailto:janice.weatherley@iucn.org)

## EU FISHERIES AND MARINE POLICY

### • Marine Framework Directive

DG Environment produced its proposal for a Marine Strategy Directive on the 24th October. This Directive will provide a framework under which Member States will have to produce Marine Strategies to achieve good environmental status in the marine environment and to preserve and protect it. However, several environmental NGOs

Commonwealth of Independent States in Moscow and the IUCN Programme Office for South-Eastern Europe in Belgrade can disseminate information and strategies. Together as ROfE we strive to meet our goals for a sustainable Europe by utilising local expertise and the strength of the global IUCN network.

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have expressed concern that the current proposal does not include any legally binding objectives to protect the EU's seas. The EC proposal can be viewed at: [Marine Strategy Directive](#)

- **Marine Protected Areas Discussed in the European Parliament**



EBCD and the IUCN Global Marine Programme organised a conference on the 10th November, in the European Parliament on 'Marine Biodiversity, Fisheries Management and Marine Protected Areas'. The event was well attended by MEPs, Commission representatives from DG Fisheries and DG Environment, the fishing industry, and environmental NGOs, who debated the potential benefits and limitations of Marine Protected Areas, and the need for these to be developed with wide stakeholder involvement, alongside complementary fisheries management methods.

## EU DEVELOPMENT COOPERATION POLICY

- **Future EU Development Cooperation Funding for the Environment and Natural Resources**

On 23rd November 2005, IUCN, together with Birdlife International, WWF, FERN, IFAW, Conservation International, CAN-Europe and IIED sent a response to the European Commission's consultation on a new Thematic Programme on Environment and Natural Resources, view at: [Thematic Prog Response](#). As the final step in the consultative process, the EC invited civil society representatives to attend a meeting on 30th November. The Commission is now drafting a Communication which once approved internally, will be presented to a working group involving civil society, before sending to the European Parliament and Council.

For further information on IUCN ROfE's work with DG Development, please contact: [jean-claude.jacques@iucn.org](mailto:jean-claude.jacques@iucn.org)

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